

California Student Aid Commission

**California
Student Aid
Commission
Update**





Agenda

1. Cal Grant Competitive Program
2. California Dream Act
3. California Chafee Grant for Foster Youth
4. Cash for College
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7. GDSM Update
8. SEARS Survey
9. Consolidated Financial Aid Program and RFP
10. African-American Initiative

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Cal Grant Program

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Competitive Program

- **100%** paid rate for 2016-17 Competitive Cal Grant awards
 - Earlier recycle of unused awards
- 2017-18 awards were made with the same scoring matrix implemented in 2016-17 (CSAC-TICAS)
 - Aims to benefit the most disadvantaged students
 - Ranks socioeconomic and home environmental disadvantages higher than academic performance

Entitlement Program

- 2017-18 Cal Grant Claiming Process

SEGMENT NAME	SOA CONFIRMED	% CONFIRMED	CONF AT SAME SCH	CONF AT DIFF SCH	% CONF AT DIFF SCH	UNCONFIRMED	TOTAL AWARDS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE	63,215	81%	30,491	32,724	52%	14,535	77,750
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA	19,732	85%	4,775	14,957	76%	3,592	23,324
CALIFORNIA STATE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY	33,716	77%	13,890	19,826	59%	9,917	43,633
PRIVATE TWO YEAR NON-PROFIT	1	20%	0	1	100%	4	5
PRIVATE FOUR YEAR AND PRIVATE GRADUATE	7,013	69%	2,840	4,173	60%	3,164	10,177
PRIVATE, FOR-PROFIT	604	46%	304	300	50%	722	1,326
PUBLIC - OTHER	23	53%	4	19	83%	20	43
TOTAL	124,304	80%	52,304	72,000	58%	31,954	156,258

- **SOA CONFIRMED** - School of Attendance confirmed.
- **CONF AT SAME SCH** - The 1st school listed on the Application matches the currently awarded school.
- **CONF AT DIFF SCH** - The 1st school listed on the Application DOES NOT match the currently awarded and confirmed school.



Entitlement Program

- Cal Grant Claiming Challenges
 - Processing times for schools to claim students
 - California Community Colleges
- 2018-19 Applications submitted as of 11/3/2017
 - FAFSA: 355,404
 - CADAA: 4,861
- Preliminary 2018-19 Cal Grant HS Entitlement award consideration scheduled for **November 8**



California Dream Act

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2018-19 CADAA Updates

Questions removed from the application:

- **Question 8a** – DACA SSN
- **Question 23a** – Option to register with the U.S. Selective Service System through CSAC
- **Question 31** – DREAM loans

Application Enhancements:

- Countdown timer was minimized
- Increased font size on U Visa/TPS question
- Household size validation for questions 52 and 99
- EFC displayed on top of the confirmation page
- Professional Judgement box in Web Grants

2018-19 CADAA Updates

- CADAA Home page update

[Check out our California Dream Act information & resources.](#)

Announcements:

- To apply for a Cal Grant submit a California Dream Act Application by **March 2**.
- Due to scheduled site maintenance, the on-line California Dream Act Application will be unavailable every Wednesday and Sunday from 11:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. (PST). We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

<p>NEW to the CA Dream Act? First Time User?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start a NEW application• Get Started! <p>Start</p>	<p>Returning User to CA Dream Act?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete a saved application• Make correction to your application• Renew your application• Add a school <p>Login</p>	<p>Submit Parent Signature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Request Parent PIN• Forgot Parent PIN?• Sign Student Application <p>Parent Signature</p>
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The California Student Aid Commission has strict security and confidentiality policies and procedures in place to protect the integrity and confidentiality of student records. The California Student Aid Commission has not now, or in the past, shared any information which would indicate a student's immigration status, either documented or undocumented. The California Student Aid Commission also adheres to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99), a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.

Pursuant to section 502 of the California Penal Code and Public Law 99-474, Title 18, United States Code unauthorized access to applicant information will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

- ❖ Switched Login and Parent Signature boxes
- ❖ Minor verbiage updates to provide clarity to new and returning students



DACA and the CA Dream Act

DACA

- Federal program that offered eligible undocumented immigrants, work permits and a two-year renewable reprieve from deportation
- Currently scheduled to be phased out in 2 ½ years
- Current DACA holders can maintain their status until it expires

CA Dream Act

- State program that allows eligible undocumented AB 540 students to apply for and receive state financial aid
- DACA is not required for AB 540 eligibility
- DACA is not required to complete the California Dream Act Application
- DACA will not impact the ability for California students to continue receiving financial aid



Chafee Grant for Foster Youth

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Chafee Overview

- Administered by the Commission through an interagency agreement with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
- Assists foster youth to help pay for college or career/technical training
- Maximum award amount of \$5,000 per academic year
- Federal and State funded grant subject to annual availability of funds



Chafee Webinars

- Open to anyone. Contact Chafee@csac.ca.gov for information on the next scheduled webinar
- Operational updates
- Provide payment updates
- Maximize limited amount of funding
- Forum for suggestions, questions and/or concerns
- Identify issues and ways to streamline the process



2017-18 Chafee Award Cycle

- Program totals (as of October 17, 2017):
 - Awarded amount: \$14,333,401
 - 2908 students
- Segment breakdown

Segment	Amount	Students
CCC	\$8,768,955	1779
CSU	\$2,534,335	519
UC	\$655,580	132
Private	\$1,869,134	374
Out of State	\$505,397	104

Resources

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Web Grants | Cal Grants | Cash for College | Cal Dream Act | FAFSA

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<p>Cal Grant Program Outlines operational and eligibility</p> <p>Cal Grant Program Handbook Cal Grant Program Handbook</p> <p>Forms Access and transaction forms</p> <p>Income and Asset Ceilings Chart to review</p>	<p>Institutional Participation Agreement Cal Grant Institutional Participation Agreement (IPA)</p> <p>Senate Bill 70 Information Student and institution eligibility changes</p> <p>Training Webinars and power point</p> <p>Chafee - Foster Youth Webinar Training and Coordinators guide</p>	<p>Middle Class Scholarship Information The Middle Class Scholarship (MCS)</p> <p>Compliance Review Learn about the process</p> <p>IFAP Federal website for professionals</p> <p>Disabled Student Programs Disability services and information</p>	<p>IT Technical Documents Technical and IT related documents</p> <p>Access Forms Access and security</p> <p>Cal Grant Eligible Schools Cal Grant participating schools</p> <p>Resources Tools and information</p>
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Chafee Foster Youth Program Webinar

Chafee Youth Grant Program Webinar

- [Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program - August 2016](#)
- [Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program Enhancements Update PowerPoint](#)

2016-2017 Academic Year Update

- As noted in [GOM 2015-41](#), for the 2016-17 academic year and going forward institutions will no longer submit Need Analysis Report (NAR) information in WebGrants or by paper.
- Information contained within the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) and cost of attendance information will replace the NAR process to determine the student's unmet financial need.
- The Commission anticipates running the initial award cycle in July of 2016, which will provide students with a preliminary award.
- The new process eliminates the NAR, and allows institutions to confirm and validate the preliminary Chafee Grant Award, will be available to institutions in August 2016.
- The Commission plans to introduce and provide training on the new process that eliminates the NAR in the months of June, July, and August 2016, through a series of GOMs and webinars.
- The Commission will continue to receive the paper NAR for the 2015-16 academic year until September 30, 2016.

Chafee Foster Youth Program

Please refer to the following guidelines when submitting applications and forms for current or former foster youth who wish to participate in the California Chafee Grant for Foster Youth (Chafee) program.

Chafee Coordinator's Guide

- [Chafee Coordinator's Guide](#)

Foster Care Eligibility Form

- [Foster Care Eligibility Form](#)

Student Application

- [Student Application](#)

Student Update/Change Form

- [Student Update/Change Form](#)

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Cash for College

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Cash for College Update

- Over **685** approved workshops through March 2, 2018 serving an estimated 22,000 students and their families.
- **589** Workshops to be completed before January 1, 2018
 - October – 369
 - November – 170
 - December – 50
- To host or find a Cash for College Workshop, visit:
www.Cash4College.org



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2017 Training Summary

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2017 Cal Grant Regional Training

- ## 2017 Locations

LOCATION	DATE	ATTENDEES
Notre Dame de Namur University	May 9-10	50
University of Southern California	June 12-13	60
CSU San Marcos	June 15-16	85
Sacramento County Office of Education	June 29-30	80

- ## Agenda

- Cal Grant Overview
- Navigating WebGrants
- Payments and Reconciliation
- Compliance Reviews
- Institutional Eligibility
- Grant Delivery System
- Resources





2017 High School Counselor Workshops

- Presented by **CASFAA, CCCSFAAA, ECMC and CSAC**
 - 35 Locations (30 sold out)
 - August 25, 2017 – November 17, 2017
 - Over 5,700 registered participants (80% attendance rate)
- **Agenda**
 - Cal Grant Program Basics and Eligibility
 - The California Dream Act Application
 - High School Responsibilities
 - Federal Updates and The FAFSA
 - Special Circumstances and Scenarios

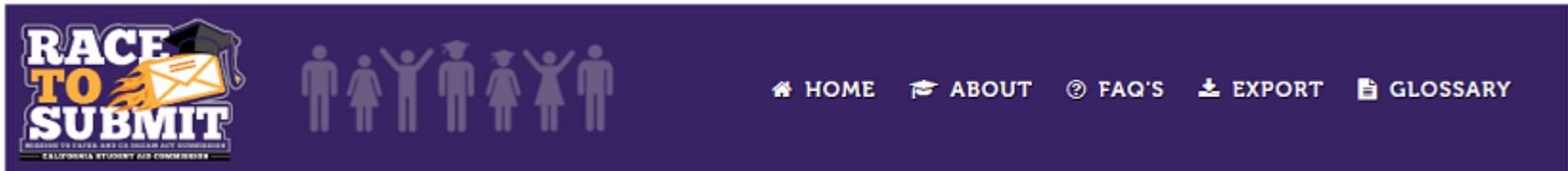




2018-19 Race to Submit Dashboard

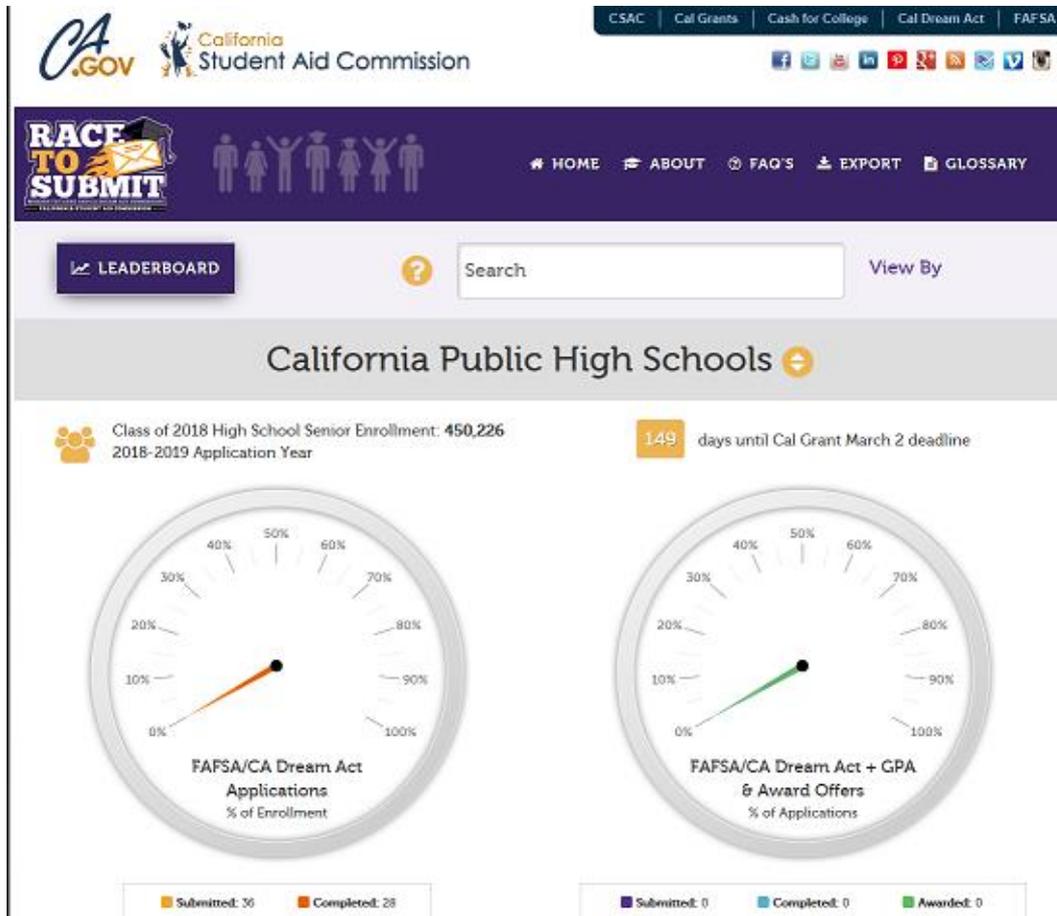


2018-19 Race to Submit Dashboard



- Initiative to increase FAFSA and CADAA completion rates among all California high schools
- Launched on October 4, 2017, at Rancho Verde High School in Moreno Valley
- The Dashboard is located on CSAC's homepage for the public to view application submissions by high school, district and county

2018-19 Race to Submit Dashboard



The following data is available by high school, school district and county on a weekly basis:

- FAFSA/CADAA completion and submission rates
- Number of Cal Grant applications submitted and completed
- Number of students eligible for Cal Grants
- Number of Cal Grant awards



GDSM Update

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GDSM Project Status

We Are Here October 2017

Summer 2018

Jan 2018

Complete
07/2016

Stage 1 - BA
Business
Analysis

Complete
05/2017

Stage 2 - AA
Alternatives
Analysis

- Recommended Solution
- Costs



Stage 3 - SD
Solution
Development

- Detailed Functional and Technical Specs
- SOW
- RFP
- Evaluation Criteria



Stage 4 - PRA
Project Readiness
Approval

- Vendor Solicitation
- Vendor Selection
- Contract Sign



GDSM Vendor
Installation &
Configuration

- Implementation Plan



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Grant Delivery System Modernization (GDSM) Project



The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) processes more than seven million grant applications, scholarship applications, loan payback applications, and awards up to two billion dollars in funds annually. The Commission has been working on the Modernization of its legacy systems for two years in order to more efficiently process awards and support student financial aid.

The Commission is following the State of California Department of Technology (CDT) guidelines for their Project Approval Lifecycle (PAL) process. Stakeholders have been working diligently to define and develop the critical detailed functional requirements for the new system. The objectives and goals will ensure a fully integrated, modern system that is capable of interacting real time with institutions and students in order to gain the benefits expected by our California technical constituents. For more information contact us at: GDSMProject@csac.ca.gov

Also please Subscribe to our electronic mail service: CSAC_List, and you'll automatically receive a monthly Grant Delivery System Modernization Newsletter.

To manage your CSAC_LIST subscriptions **Click here:** [Subscribe to GDSM Information](#)

Grant Delivery System Modernization Project (GDSM) Newsletter

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide stakeholders with updated and relevant information on the **Grant Delivery System Modernization Project (GDSM)**.

2017 Newsletters



GDSM Summer (March-June) Newsletter 2017

Key Messages: Why Do We Need the GDSM Project? The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) receives legislative mandates every year which requires legislation and program changes that affects our current Grant Delivery System (GDS). Because the GDS system was built on business rules and processes that were established in the 1980s and 1990s the system experiences limitations in scalability, security, performance, flexibility, integration, and business value...[Read more](#)



GDSM 1st Quarter (January-March) Newsletter 2017

We are proud to present the first newsletter for the Grant Delivery System Modernization (GDSM) Project. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform and educate every stakeholder on the updates of GDSM. ...[Read more](#)

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SEARS Survey

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Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS)

- Used to determine the costs associated with obtaining a postsecondary education in California
- Last conducted in 2006-07 as part of the mandate in Ed Code 69514
- CSAC's Research Unit staff currently working in partnership with California's segments of higher education on the project to re-administer the SEARS

 breaking down
the cost of
attendance



Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS)

- First 2019-20 SEARS Advisory Committee teleconference meeting was held on October 2, 2017
- Main Goal: Gather, analyze and report current data that accurately reflects economic reality of California students pursuing higher education.
- Particularly important in addressing concerns of rising costs of attendance, student food and housing insecurity, and overall student debt.





Consolidation of Financial Aid Programs and RFP

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Consolidated Financial Aid

REPORT

- CSAC tasked by the Legislature to prepare and submit a report by February 2018 recommending significant reforms to State financial aid programs
- CSAC issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) in early August 2017, seeking a contractor to prepare these recommendations

❖ *Proposal to consolidate existing programs whenever feasible, such as when programs share similar eligibility requirements, benefits, or administration.*

MAIN GOALS

- Address complexity of the current financial aid structure to make applying for and receiving aid easier for students and families
- Consolidate and expand existing programs to cover a greater share of students' total cost of attendance to reduce reliance on student loan debt



African-American Initiative

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African-American Student Outreach Initiative

- ❖ *In 2012, the California Committee on the Status of Boys and Men, reported that African-American student experience the highest rate of childhood poverty – about 27% while they are just 5.6 % of the state’s K-12 population.*
- CSAC is working with our partners in higher education and the Legislature to remove substantial obstacles to higher education opportunities affecting low-income African-American students.
- CSAC will utilize our Cash for College and Cal-SOAP programs, and will create new and stronger partnerships with community based organizations to raise FAFSA, Cal Grant and general financial aid awareness in California counties and schools with the lowest income students and the lowest college going rates.
- ❖ *In 2015, the National Center for Education Statistics reported that African-American students are disproportionately concentrated in high-poverty, low-performing schools, making them more vulnerable to poor educational outcomes that undermine their chances for success in life.*

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Institutional Support

Phone: 1(888)294-0153

SchoolSupport@csac.ca.gov

www.csac.ca.gov

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